UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.157/PC/63/Add.16
22 April 1993

Original: ENGLISH

WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Preparatory Committee
Fourth session
Geneva, 19-30 April 1993
Agenda item 5

# STATUS OF PREPARATION OF PUBLICATIONS, STUDIES AND DOCUMENTS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

## Contribution from the Brazilian Society of Ostomates

1. The President of the Brazilian Society of Ostomates on 6 April 1993 sent a letter to the Secretary-General of the World Conference on Human Rights. The letter was accompanied by a petition bearing over 1,000 signatures calling for the World Conference to address the plight of these people.

2. People who have undergone ostomies require a special sac to be inserted in the abdomen to collect bodily wastes which, through congenital malformation, disease or accident, cannot be evacuated normally. These devices must be imported into Brazil and are very costly. This means that many of the 30,000 people with ostomies in Brazil - and thousands more in other developing countries - are unable to obtain them, and are thereby deprived of their human right to equal health care and their right to human dignity.